GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3002
ANSWERED ON:22.03.2005
IMPORT OF PALM OIL
Choudhary Smt. Anuradha;Khan Shri Mohammad Tahir;Munshiram Shri

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has modified the rules concerning import of crude palm oil;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has received any complaint against edible oil importers evading custom duty on refined palm oil;

(d) if so, the details thereof and actions taken by the Government thereon;

(e) the names of the countries from where most of the palm oil is imported; and

(f) the quantum of oil imported during the year 2004-05?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY(SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN)

(a) & (b): The Central Govt. has revised range of carotenoid content from 500 mg/kg - 2500mg/kg to 250 mg/kg - 2500 mg/kg and acid value from 2 to 4 for crude palm oil for being eligible for the custom duty of 80%. This, however, will be subject to actual user condition i.e. for manufacturers of refined oil,refined palmolein, vanaspati, bakery shortening or inter-esterified fats only.

(c) & (d): Govt. has not received any specific complaint during the last one year against edible oil importers evading customs duty on refined palm oil.

(e): The import of Palm oil is mainly from Malaysia and Indonesia.

(f): Details of import of Palm oil during 2004-05 (April 2004 - October 2004 as per data given by DGCI&S is given in the table given below:

Name of the item	Quantity (in thousand kgs)	Value (in Rs. lakhs)
Palm Oil	1973757.40	469937.26